



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

July 12, 2005

News Release

ICE OFFICERS ARREST SALVADORIAN FUGITIVE

Fugitive on the run and in hiding since 2003

SAN ANTONIO — A 38-year old national of El Salvador convicted of bodily harm was arrested Friday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers.

Jose Arnulfo-Quintanilla had been on the run and in hiding since 2003. He was arrested at his home and taken into ICE custody without incident.

Local police arrested and charged Arnulfo-Quintanilla with assault that resulted in bodily injury in June 2001. He ultimately was convicted and received a 24-month probation sentence. Under immigration law, as a convicted criminal alien he became deportable.

An immigration judge reviewed his case and found him ineligible for any form of immigration relief. He was ordered removed May 20, 2003, but chose to ignore the judge's order by remaining in the country.

"Arresting dangerous criminal alien fugitives like Arnulfo-Quintanilla is a high priority for ICE," said Marc J. Moore, ICE San Antonio field office director for Detention and Removal Operations. "ICE is committed to reducing the number of dangerous criminals hiding in our South Texas communities. We will continue to work these types of cases 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Arnulfo-Quintanilla is being held at the South Texas Detention Center in Pearsall, Texas, pending his deportation to El Salvador.

These arrests are part of a national ICE initiative to arrest and remove fugitives in hiding who have been ordered deported from the country. The National Fugitive Operation Program (NFOP) was established in February 2002, making the apprehending absconders a priority within the Department of Homeland Security. The NFOP's primary mission is to identify, locate, apprehend, process and remove fugitive aliens from the United States.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.